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The Barking News

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Mr. Brandon Muccino, Principal



Volume 7
Number 1

Donate Blood And Help Save Three Lives At PS 83 Blood Drive

by Alisa Ponari 8-508

A blood drive is when people come together to donate blood to those who are in need of it. This year, PS 83's Blood Drive is going to be held from 2:45 pm to 7:15 pm on Monday, November 21. The location is PS 83 in the Annex Gym.

There are certain rules to follow with regard to eligibility. Teenagers sixteen to seventeen years old are allowed to donate blood with parental permission. Adults eighteen and older are also eligible for blood donation. Those who are seventy-five and older must have a doctor's note. People must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Good health means a donor was symptom free from a cold or flu for seventy-two hours and symptom free for fourteen days following recovery from COVID-19.

To prepare for the donation, follow these steps. First thing to do is hydrate the day before. Second is to eat salty snacks the evening before. Third is to get some sleep. Fourth is to eat breakfast, and, last of all, is to drink sixteen ounces of water. Donations such as these save lives so it would be recommended to follow those steps.

Donors will be expected to provide an id, name address, and birthdate when registering. The donor specialist will check the donor's pulse, temperature, blood pressure, and hemoglobin. A quick review on their health history and they'll have to get those questions answered. Donors can donate blood and then relax since there are snacks and drinks provided at the drive.

Blood must always be available since there's life-threatening emergencies that require blood of the same type. To meet hospital demand, there is a need for more than 2,000 donors a day. People get into accidents and lose massive amounts of blood. There, of course, are always chronic diseases such as cancer that require blood transfusions. If there are victims involved in a fire they will surely need a blood donation since they suffer a great loss of it. Blood cells do spoil after some time and there is a need to keep a fresh supply constantly. This is why there are events such as blood drives. (cont'd. on pg. 3, col. 1)



Student Government Positions Filled in School Election

by Amina Swailam 8-508

Early in the school year at PS 83, nothing was mentioned about the Student Council. Many questions were going through the minds of the students. Would there be a Student Council this year? Are our voices going to be heard? Questions most students think about, but first off, what is a Student Council? Student Council is an organization of students that works together to give students an opportunity to develop leadership by organizing and carrying out school activities and service projects. Some examples of projects and activities the Student Council has started is selling food in the cafeteria. This raises money for the school and it is something students had requested to be added. When interviewing Mr. Brandon Muccino about Student Council Elections, he stated that having student elections is an important thing to have in our school. It is a start for students who are interested in politics and government outside of PS 83.



Recently, elections were held throughout the school, for students to elect representatives. In the eighth grade, Sophia Bui, 8-509, Alice Hill, 8-508, Erdi Doda, 8-512, Cayenne Bui, 8-513, Osayd Abu-Awwad, 8-516, Azzam Ahmad, 8-515, Zackary Buigues, 8-420 and Ivanna Vegas, 8-419 were elected as student representatives. Anthony Kolaj, 7-409, Melody Murillo, 7-408, Garry Guy-Haywood, 7-417, Aryam Hezam, 7-418, Dafina Kurhasku, 7-416, Desmond Williams and Hade Gomez, 7-415, Hailey Deberas, 7-510, and Xavier Judge, 7-520, will represent the seventh grade. In sixth grade, Britanya Jones, 6-408, Yanara Duarte, 6-309, Arianna Marzan, 6-312, Alexander Varges, 6-410, Sebastian Azirov, 6-413, Mais Saiban, 6-314, Azariel Sepulveda, 6-310, and Cesar Diaz, 6-519 are now part of the Student Council. In the fifth grade, Jozef Dodani, 5-207, Mai Jhonson, 5-208, Karin Montes, 5-213, Mai Chen 5-211, Klaudi Simoni, 5-214, Ethan Camacho and Sahira Galceez from 5-517 are all representatives.

Now that the school population has its Student Council led by Ms. Victoria Lagrippio in place, it looks forward to the things they will do to make PS 83 a better place to be.

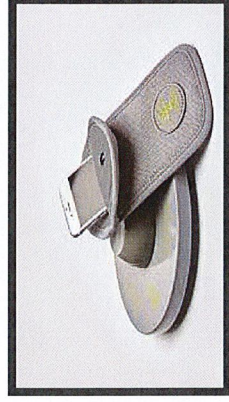
Yondr Pouches Who? What? Why?

by Alyssa Regalado 7-409

Recently students at PS 83 have been told to keep their phones in Yondr pouches from when they get into the school building to when they leave. This raises the questions of what are these Yondr pouches, how do they work, and why do schools want them.

Based on the official site (overyondr.com), the Yondr pouch causes the students to make the classroom a phone-free space. They do this by putting their phone

in a magnetic pouch. It has a gray case with a green logo that says "YONDR". On the inside of the pouch, it's black and fuzzy. On the outside, there's a lock that's green and black. Each phone is placed into a Yondr pouch that locks when it is closed. Guests flow into and out of the designated phone-free-space- as guests enter, secure their phone in a pouch and unlock their pouch, they exit." Basically, students put their phones in a pouch and then lock it. When it's time to unlock the pouch, pupils use a special magnet to open it. Then the phone is ready to be used again.



This is what the Yondr pouch looks like. in a magnetic pouch. It has a gray case with a green logo that says "YONDR". On the inside of the pouch, it's black and fuzzy. On the outside, there's a lock that's green and black. Each phone is placed into a Yondr pouch that locks when it is closed. Guests flow into and out of the designated phone-free-space- as guests enter, secure their phone in a pouch and unlock their pouch, they exit." Basically, students put their phones in a pouch and then lock it. When it's time to unlock the pouch, pupils use a special magnet to open it. Then the phone is ready to be used again.

(cont'd. on pg. 3, col. 1)

Is PS 83 The Middle School For You?

by Joseph Simoni 7-409

Many middle school students don't know which school is the best for them. This is because many students don't find activities enjoyable. The middle school section of PS 83 makes their activities a little challenging but very enjoyable. Teachers at PS 83 were asked and answered three questions:

Why out of all jobs did you become a teacher? Why out of all schools did you choose a job at PS 83? How much would you help a student in their growth in a certain topic? We first interviewed Mr. Micheal Crivillaro, a fifth grade teacher, and right when we walked in we saw that the students were having so much fun and that they were playing games with smiles on their faces. When we asked Mr. Crivillaro the first question, "Why out of all jobs did you become a teacher?" His answer was "That he enjoys teaching children." Then we asked him, "Why out of all schools, did you choose a job at PS 83?" His response was that he grew up in this neighborhood. Then we asked him, "How much would you help a student in their growth in a certain topic?" He responded with the answer that "It depends on how much the student understands the topic whether they need help or not."

Then we interviewed Mr. Alfredo Fley, and when we walked in we saw the students were happy and doing work. When we first asked him the first question "Why did you become a teacher?" His answer was "When he was in college he needed to pay for his college degree, so he decided to be a teacher but then he felt really comfortable for the first time and now he still does. Then we asked him the second question, "Why did you choose a job at PS 83 out of all schools?" His response was "That he had a friend who went to this school and when he had to look for a job, so he decided to join this school." Finally, we asked him the last question "How much would you help a student in their growth in a certain topic?" He responded with the answer that "He would help the student first with the basics and then build the foundation."

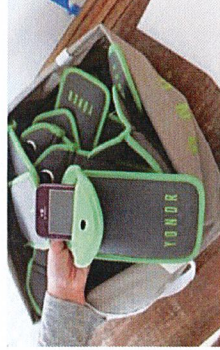
Finally, we interviewed Mrs. Alecia Stewart, when we asked her the first question. Her answer was "That when she was a kid in Jamaica, her mom got a board for her and she taught her friends math, and she realized that they were happy, which made her happy." Then we asked, "Why did you choose a job at PS 83 out of all schools?" Her response was "That people were always talking about how good the school was and then she joined the school to see for herself how good it was." Finally, we asked her the final question "How much would you help a student in his or her growth in a certain topic?" She responded that "she would help them until they understand the topic no matter what, because it takes patience and time which is very important."



According to GreatSchools, PS 83 is one of the best middle schools in the Bronx. This is because of the students' progress which is above average, the test scores which are average, and the equity rating which is also average.

In view of this rating, I would recommend PS 83 to parents who haven't decided which middle school to put a child in. This is also because PS 83 provides an excellent education and is in a safe neighborhood.

Yondr Pouches at PS 83 (cont'd. from pg. 1, col. 2)



Based on a study where over 900 schools were surveyed, students improved in both behavior and academics when their phones were in Yondr pouches. From the "End of the Year 2022 letter" shared by the company, sixty-five percent of schools saw an improvement in academic performance. Seventy-four percent of schools saw an improvement in student behavior. Also, eighty-three percent of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom.

Yondr pouches have been sold to schools since 2014. Yondr pouches are not just used for schools. They are also used for popular events such as concerts, comedy shows, weddings, corporate events, and more. Most Yondr pouches range from fifteen to thirty dollars per pouch. The creator of these Yondr pouches is named Graham Dugoni. He was born on November 24, 1986 in Portland, Oregon. He made these pouches "to show people how powerful a moment can be when we aren't focused on documenting or broadcasting", according to overyondr.com. According to godduke.com, Graham Dugoni was a soccer player and played for the Duke Blue Devils (men's soccer). His position on the field was a defender.

To summarize, the Yondr pouches have been introduced to PS83 this year. They are small pouches that students lock their phones in and they help pupils focus on what is happening in front of them instead of social media. Studies have shown that Yondr pouches have had a positive impact on students' academic and social behavior. According to the company, when students using this pouch, they will improve their studies and their grades will go up. This is what Yondr pouches are, how they work, and why schools want them.

Opinions On The Pouch (cont'd. from pg. 2, col. 2)

Alisa Syku, a graduate of PS 83 in 2020, former Yondr pouch user in high school (Astor Collegiate Academy) shared her thoughts. "I know there are a lot of students that use their phone to cheat or to just to distract themselves in class but I don't believe that the school should be holding our personal belongings

especially if there is an emergency because it would be best to allow the students to contact their own parents and not the school." She also said, "One time my pouch broke and it wouldn't open. I know from experience that this can be an issue." A seventh grader, Bashar Assaedi, from Class 7-409, stated that "I don't really have a problem with the pouches. I think they're good and bad because last year many kids weren't focused on school. Opinions can also be bad because the pouches are poorly constructed. Another thing is that by the school locking up your phone, it makes you feel untrusted.

Overall, it's good and there is no point in sneaking your phone because it will lead to problems and trouble." Yassine Medallel from Class 7-409 says, "I think the Yondr pouches were poorly made (concept wise), because students can easily bypass them. It is very easy to sneak your phone in since they don't check your bags. I think it's a bad idea though since you will most likely get into big trouble. But I can see why some people would do it. I also think that breaking the pouches is a very bad idea since it is school property".

Ms. Arjeta Krasniki, a PS 83 PE teacher, said, "I love the idea of the pouches." She also said, "I'm against sneaking your phone in or breaking the pouches. I think that students need to understand rules are rules and that the pouches benefit them and their education." A seventh grade ELA/SS teacher, Ms. Stella Kontolios-Spanakis, stated that "I think the concept of the Yondr pouches are very useful. I am ecstatic that the pouches were put into place this school year. They are necessary because if you compare June 2022 to now, the Yondr pouches have made a significant and positive change in our school". She also said, "I think that trying to sneak your phones in is horrible and a shame that if some students try to break or sneak their phone into school in the long run it is only harming them and their education."

Personally, I think that the pouches aren't a good idea considering how much of a hassle it is with a big group of fifth graders to eighth graders waiting to get their phone unlocked in the afternoon. Another thing is that it's annoying for people who don't have a phone but still need to go in the line in the morning waiting for at least five minutes in the line to get back in the yard.

In conclusion, time will tell if the pouches help or hurt the students' education at PS 83.

Shootings/Violence

(cont'd. from pg. 2, col. 3)

People around the school don't. The results from a safety-survey say that a large amount of the school population feels unsafe. After asking fifty-five people, the result was forty-eight people saying that they feel unsafe, and seven people saying they felt safe. This means that eighty-seven percent of people from this survey said that they felt unsafe in the school, and after knowing the death rate of children due to gun violence, only one student out of the fifty-five surveyed feels safe.

While the amount of school shootings increases - so does the immunity from shock and fear we have from it. Sometimes, when we see something on the news very often, we slowly begin to see it as normal. School shootings are not normal. Look at other countries, when they have one school shooting, they take the precautions necessary. Recently, Canada had a school shooting, and unlike the United States, laws and protocol were reinforced strictly. The restrictions on guns became stricter, and now a lot of schools get metal detectors, better cameras, and some even have trained security. A singular school shooting had happened in Canada, and a number of bans and protocols were enforced.

However, what does the United States do? If it's largely up to the school to protect both the students and the staff, is the United States to blame?

What do schools do for school shootings? Why aren't schools stopping these things? Mr. Brandon Muccino, the principal himself, says that they are trying as best as they can to prevent school shootings. The question I asked him was, "School shooters also took shooter drills. Knowing this, do you still think that the school shooter drills are good?" To which he replied, "Absolutely, it's better to do that than do nothing, even if they took the same drills. The shooter drills are the best that they can be at the moment." The fact that he says this allows us as students to know that if anything ever happens, the school will do the best they can to protect us. To further protect the school, Mr. Muccino had said that he was interested in the idea of getting armed security for the school. Schools and their principals are always thinking of new solutions to protect the students from school shootings.

From my perspective - school shootings should be taken more seriously. The United States should heighten precautions. The United States is a first-world country with 331.9 million people living inside of it, and hundreds of people are dying weekly from gun violence and or school shootings. I am not invalidating the current response practiced in the schools and saying that it doesn't work. However, the system should be enhanced, and differ from the same drill of turning off the lights, being quiet, and hiding in the corner of the room. The shooters did the same drills as well. Honestly, to conclude, schools should take as many precautions as possible and seek new and different methods to protect the people inside them. Because, in the end, that's all that matters.

Eighth Grade - A Year of Special Events

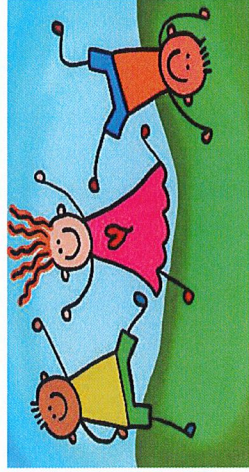
by Matilde Onofre 8-508

This school year has been going by very fast so far for eighth graders. It's time to get ready for all of the upcoming events. This month, we had our Spirit Week which, by all accounts, was fun for all the students.

Nevertheless, we can't forget to submit our high school applications that are due on **December 1st** or else some of us might end up being here again next year. Also, next month, the eighth grade will have their pictures taken for the yearbook on **December 7th**. It's time to make sure to be ready to literally sit pretty. If anyone wants his/her pictures, they can be purchased from the school. The school will be providing the cap and gown for the pictures.

In the **spring**, eighth grade students will get their gown and cap, a diploma case and a senior t-shirt to keep. If students want a class ring, they have the option to purchase it online. It will be sent to the school to be added to the other graduation things.

The eighth grade will be going on their senior trip at Holiday Hill around the **first week of June**. Then, the soon-to-be graduates will be going to Maestro's to celebrate their prom. Eighth grade will definitely be a year of special events!



You Are What You Eat

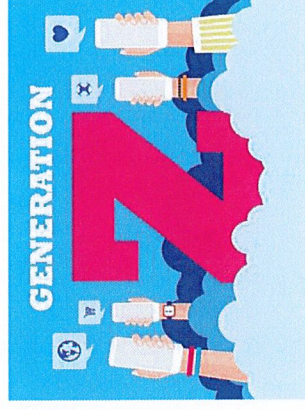
by Allyson Melendez 8-509

Have you ever wondered why school lunch is unappetizing and unhealthy, or maybe wondered what goes into school lunches? Usually school lunches include things like burgers, vegetables, pizza, and fruits. As much as all of this sounds somewhat appetizing, these lunches are often not fresh. Most school lunches are kept frozen until the workers bake or cook the food. If the food used was fresh, it would rot easily, and that would not only make buying food for the students more expensive but it would be unsanitary. Unfortunately, schools tend to buy unhealthy food because of budgeting.



This photo is from @NastySchoollunch on Twitter.

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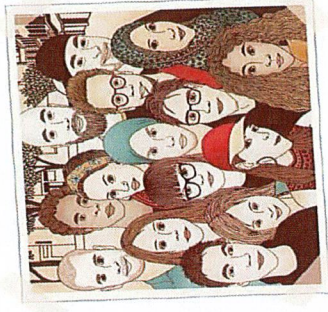


The Young Not Spoken Of

by Shannon Neon 8-509

Voting is the ability to choose someone who thinks like you, and to run and take responsibility for the place that you live in. So, why is this such a difficult task for young people? The younger generation has a mind of its own, and are most of the time eager to speak their mind. However, in politics, the candidates mainly talk about country wide problems, mostly aimed towards the older generation. This leaves the younger generation out of the picture. Generation Z, and anyone who fits in the cracks, is open and more progressive than other generations. This means that some of the things they are mainly focused on during elections are social issues, something that the older generation isn't really focused on. As a result, the problems Generation Z and others want to bring to light, are never brought to light.

Mr. Niko Omilana, a twenty-five year old comedy youtuber who is widely known for his pranks, ran for mayor in the 2021 London election. Being the youngest candidate among the other twenty candidates, most people took him as a joke and knew for a fact that he had no chance. However, by the near end of the election, Mr. Omilana managed to climb his way up to fifth place. His success in making it into fifth place, knocking down all the other fifteen candidates, screams out how much younger people are not represented in politics.



All in all, Generation Z is cut out completely from the picture, leaving them without a voice. However, Generation Z is a very out-going generation. Hence, they don't hesitate to speak out against problems. But, younger people have the lowest turnouts in voting. How can we have our opinions addressed if more than half of the country doesn't vote, or has no one to vote for?

The Desire To Be Perfect

by Alexis Rosario 8-509

For years, the New York State Department of Education has continuously implemented various standardized exams for students of all grades. Most often, the ideas revolving around these standardized exams consist of having the exam determine the student's future and "success." But what is success in the eyes of a student who wishes for a greater future, a greater life, and a greater reputation? And is it just a clump of misinterpreted notions? In my eyes, success is not just the act of being successful. Success is coming to terms with who you are and how you will continue to be this person. Within a classroom setting, it is one thing to excel in a certain subject but it is another to actually continue this way of being in a manner that is healthy. A number of students in this world start off with the simple sense of gratification from parents when they present them with a "decent" or "sufficient" grade, but the sense of happiness from achievement becomes an addiction, an addiction for academic validation.

From the perfect score on a piece of paper, it proceeds to define you. It intoxicates your mind of the unrealistic expectations and sense of perfection that make you feel driven to complete the impossible and become a machine. But why is that? How did it go from a simple validating comment from our loved ones to always wishing for "perfect"? The answer is simple. It is the fear of failing, the fear of disappointing people, and the fear of not achieving the "perfect success." We, as students, want nothing more than to make our families proud, to break the cycle of failure and become the one who is recognized for their hard work and dedication. So we decide to push ourselves to fulfill the idea of being "perfect." But what is "perfect"? And is this sense of perfection worth it even if it means sacrificing your sanity and corrupting your mind of notions that are unrealistic?

We, as a student body, are plagued with the pressure of becoming successful, independent, and "perfect." Though it appears to be the most reasonable idea for young people to have, students will find themselves spending hours on work, doing more than what they need to, and sacrificing several hours of sleep just for a higher number on a simple piece of paper.



It always comes down to the single piece of paper with various questions of different types, comments from teachers, but despite those words from a teacher, nobody listens to comments. The only thing on that paper that speaks volumes is the single score, the definitive score.

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Surprising Facts

About Bullying...

You May Or May Not Have Known!

by Emelly Kalavaci 7-409

Bullying is extremely harmful. Even though it's huge, people do not know what bullying is or the different types. Bullying is seeking to harm, intimidate, or coerce (someone perceived as vulnerable) as defined by Google. There are six types of bullying. Did you know about twenty percent of kids twelve - eighteen worldwide have experienced bullying according to experts. One of the attempts to stop this unfair behavior was organized in 2007 by two twelfth grade students after they witnessed homophobic bullying. They saw a boy get harassed for wearing a pink shirt on the first day of school in Canada. After that, Pink Shirt Day began and it is celebrated every year on February 22 around the globe.

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The Desire To Be Perfect

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"How can I be a perfectionist if nothing I do is ever perfect?"



. This is what I call an addiction for academic validation. It may seem extensive to describe the desire to be perfect as an addiction but if you look closer, this simple desire matches the qualities of an addiction, an addiction that seems harmless but kills you mentally and later physically. How exactly can you fix this? And is it ever possible to grow a healthy relationship with your academics? The answer to this depends on the will and confidence of the individual.

Confidence and will are the two significant components of a person that many seem to lack. Confidence isn't innate and neither is will. Both qualities are developed through the act of learning how to appreciate yourself, your work, and mind. But many fail to learn this. But why? Is it because parents fail to realize their children's struggles? Or is it because students try to conceal their struggles so they won't appear "weak."? This still is a mystery but from my experience, it's the fear of showing vulnerability when people expect so much from you, think so highly of you, and view you as "perfect."

Learning to realize that perfection is not attainable will completely change your perspective on life. This realization will teach you to have appreciation of yourself and work. In the end, it is difficult to pull yourself away from this "perfect" reality, but it is up to you if you want to make the effort to change.

Bullying Facts

(cont'd. from pg. 5, col. 2)

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school age children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Both kids who are bullied and those who bully others may have serious, lasting problems. Bullying can be teasing, saying mean things or calling someone names, deliberately ignoring someone or leaving them out of games or activities, or coercion which means encouraging others to bully too. Playing nasty jokes or spreading nasty stories pushing, tripping, hitting someone, or taking or damaging their things is also considered bullying. This treatment can be face to face or online. Either way it is difficult to combat.

The six types of bullying are cyber bullying, physical bullying prejudicial bullying, relational aggression, sexual bullying and browbeating. Cyber bullying is online bullying for example saying mean comments about someone online. According to Stopbullying.gov, cyberbullying is the biggest kind of bullying in 2022. Overall, 36.5% of people feel like they have been bullied on the internet. Physical bullying is hurting someone such as pushing and hitting. Prejudicial bullying is focused on factors like the color of a person's skin, their religious practices, or their sexual orientation. Relational aggression is manipulating someone while sexual bullying is harassing others through comments and actions that are sexual in nature. Last, but not least, to browbeat someone is to make fun of someone with abusive words.

Bullying can affect everyone, kids who are bullied, kids who bully and kids who witness this behavior. It may lead to negative outcomes including impacts on mental health, substance use and suicide. Kids who were bullied often experience negative physical, social, emotions, academic and mental health issues. Kids who torment others often have violent behavioral issues such as getting in trouble, being abusive to a loved one according to stompoutbullying.org. Witnesses may skip school or have increases in mental health problems such as depression or anxiety.

According to the experts, this behavior is wrong, it's never okay! It's never cool and it may have some long term effects on people, for example mental health problems, substance use and suicide. Kids at the age of eight are saying that they want to take their own lives because of the way they are being treated. People can prevent this by helping kids understand what bullying is. Also, a person should model how to treat others and tell kids it is always unacceptable to bully and that everyone should be treated with respect.



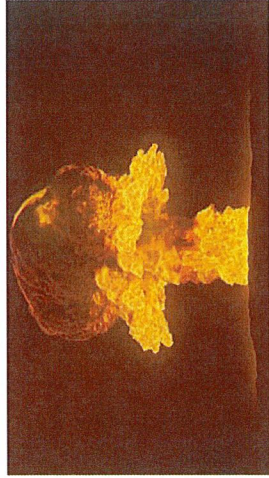
*"Be the Change You Want to See
In The World"*

Gandhi

Is WWII A Real Possibility In The Future?

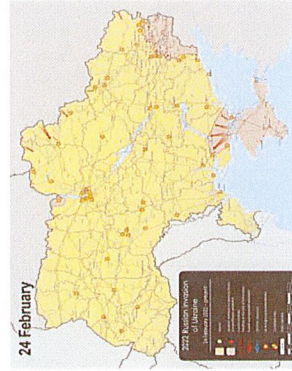
by Anthony Kolaj 7-409

A massive nuclear weapon is on the horizon heading towards New York City as the world watches at the edge of their seats. BOOM! It strikes the World Trade Center and starts WWII. This can be a possibility in the near future.



The war in Russia and Ukraine has escalated and tensions between Russia and the United States are in shambles. Also the situation in Asia isn't looking good. China and Taiwan are glaring at each other. President Joseph Biden himself has said the United States would help Taiwan in case of a Chinese invasion. Many might ask why is America involved in all of this, and why do they want to put their country at risk of a war that can end all wars.

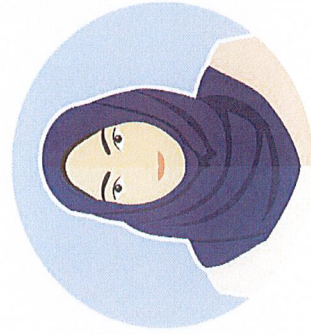
There has been a war between Russia and Ukraine. The western powers, like Germany, France, United States, and the United Kingdom have all sided and aided Ukraine. This has frustrated Russia to the core.



Ukraine has made use of this aid and has fought back against the Russians. However this war is affecting Americans pockets. Russia is a major producer of gas according to The New York Times, forty percent of Europe's natural gas comes from Russia. This hurts finances and gas prices have gone to Mars. Food prices are up, interest rates are up, and inflation is running faster than Usain Bolt.

There has also been rising tensions in Asia, mainly the standoff between China and Taiwan. The history between these two is brutal. According to the BBC, "a civil war broke out in China, and the then-leader Chiang Kai-shek's troops were defeated by Mao Zedong's Communist army."

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Iran's Situation And Social Media's Actions Against Muslims The Suffering On Both Sides

by Brog Alaudi 8-508

Following the 1979 Islamic Revolution, it was made compulsory for women to wear hijabs and loose fitting clothes in Iran. Ms. Mahsa Amini, a young Iranian woman, was just leaving a subway station in the capital Tehran with her brother before being detained by police for wearing her hijab in an inappropriate way (a style where her bangs are showing and the rest of the hair was covered). She was ushered into a van and transported into a police station by the morality police. While at the police station, according to officials and released CCTV footage, she suddenly collapsed. The authorities stated they believe she had pre-existing conditions which may be the cause of a heart attack. Her family, on the other hand, has said that she hadn't had any pre-existing health issues and that she was a healthy twenty-two year old who was taken and never able to leave the police station. Ms. Amini was then transported to Tehran's Kasra Hospital.

According to the Forensics Report, a news article investigating her case, after being examined, there was evidence of internal bleeding and damage to her spleen was found. The spleen was removed to stabilize her condition but soon after she was in a coma and died due to skull injuries. Her family laid her body to rest in their hometown on Saturday morning September 16, 2022.

The entire country demanded an investigation to be opened up. This was due to the fact that most people were growing suspicious as to why she passed out minutes after going into the station and why they were told she died due to being taken off of life support. Many suspect that she was beaten by the morality police in the van before entering the police station.

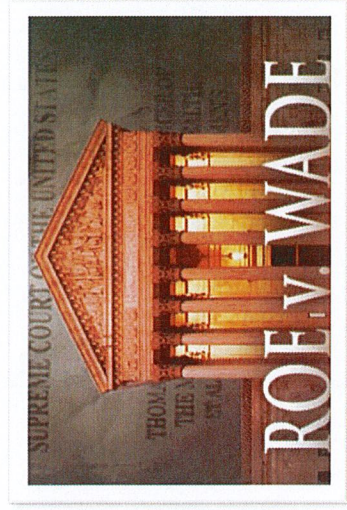
Many Iranian women and men are sick of these rules being enforced on them. Due to this, there have been many protests in which women were burning their hijabs and cutting their hair. Many people were killed during the protests. Videos were also posted of them doing this. Soon after this, Iran cut off people's access to the internet.

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Reproductive Rights What is Right or Wrong?

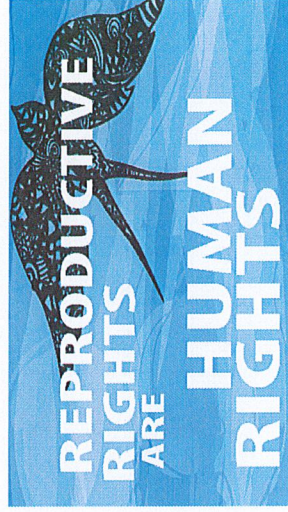
by Macaylah Ortiz 8-509

Roe v. Wade in 1973 was a landmark decision of the United States Supreme Court in which the Court ruled that the Constitution of the United States allowed the right to terminate a pregnancy. But now, on June 24, 2022 the United States Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, making access to terminating a pregnancy banned in some states that choose to do so, causing controversy amongst many Americans. Many people have different views on this still because it has affected many women across the United States. A young girl in Ohio was denied access to terminating her pregnancy after she was assaulted because of the new laws. A teenage girl was denied an abortion because she was "not mature enough". So what does this all mean? It seems as if there are two popular beliefs because of the new *Roe v. Wade* law.

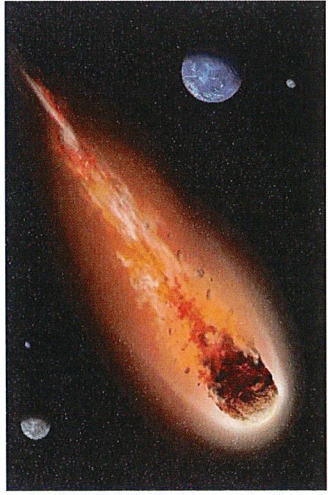


Some people do not support terminating a pregnancy due to their belief that it is hurting an unborn child. On the other hand, other people say that it's okay to have an abortion because of their belief that women deserve the right to their own bodies. No matter how hard we try to ignore the topic of abortion, it's still one of the top issues in the country.

In New York, everyone has a right to his or her own body autonomy. It's a human right. I believe women should not be forced to do something with their own body that they do not want to. Terminating a pregnancy is a human right. Abortion has been around for centuries, even before it was legalized. Unsafe abortions back then and now have resulted in serious harm or even death. Therefore, I believe that abortion should stay legalized to prevent unsafe abortions across the country. No matter what, abortion is still going to be around. The real question is if the American public wants it to be safe or not. I acknowledge that others might not support terminating a pregnancy, but women's lives are on the line. Does your opinion dictate other's life decisions? This has been an ongoing debate for years now, and it seems like there is no end to it.



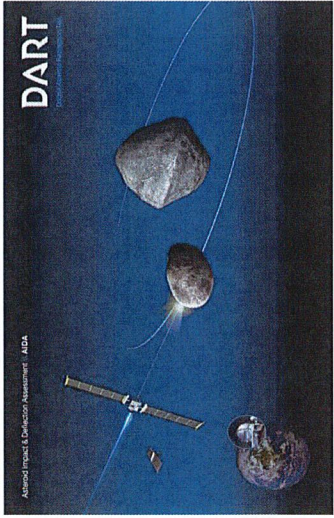
NASA Deflecting Asteroids Saving Civilizations



by Joanna Chen 8-508

Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, in Laurel, Maryland, announced the success of the project at 7:14 pm, Sept. 26, 2022. The successful impact confirmed that NASA can successfully reroute an asteroid if it caused any threat to Earth. An asteroid pair seven million miles away from Earth has safely been rerouted.

How do we prevent asteroids from colliding with the planet? The answer is Dimorphos, DARTS target, NASA’s asteroid-deflecting spacecraft. DARTS target an object that poses no threats to Earth, making sure that if this project fails they won’t make a new hazard to earth accidentally. This project marks NASA’s first attempt to shift an asteroid’s orbital track. NASA plans to make DART fly directly into this asteroid at 24,000 kilometers per hour, making sure it bumps into the asteroid hard enough to shift it. While this happens, DART releases another spacecraft to record and send pictures to the planet. This is a rare occasion where DART needs to crash in the asteroid in order for this project to work. They expect the collision to shorten the orbital track of the asteroid by ten minutes, but would count at least seventy-three seconds as a success. So, if this project were to work, it would be a technique that would be able to prevent an asteroid making contact with earth if that would ever happen. Even if DART could move it slightly, that would be enough to reroute the asteroid.



DART carries hydrazine propellant for spacecraft maneuvers and attitude control, and xenon to operate the ion propulsion technology demonstration engine. DART is an example of a kinetic impactor technology that could be used to deflect an asteroid if one would ever be a threat to the planet. This project has demonstrated to people that it can navigate itself to their target, causing a successful impact. This project helps NASA understand and create more technology to gather more information about our solar system or protect the Earth from any dangers people are exposed to.

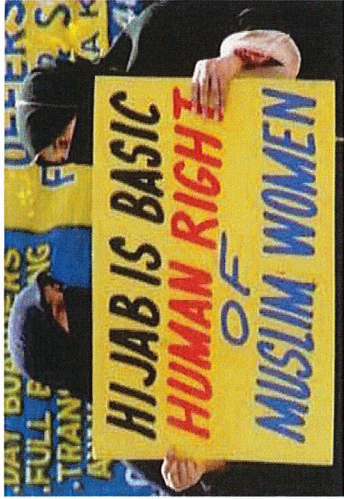
Iran's Situation/Social Media

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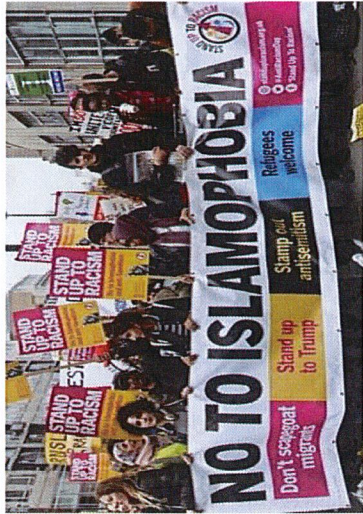
Although I do understand why they would burn their hijabs, they could have easily found something more appropriate to do instead of burning them. Others, as in non-Muslims, should know that even though Iranian women are being forced to wear the hijab, there are still people around the world, and in Iran as well, who freely wear the hijab because it is their religious choice. While posting these videos of people mostly burning hijabs to protest these events may gain them praise from other places, it also causes many troubles for other Muslims from other countries.

Just a few days ago, I was scrolling through Social Media and saw many Islamophobic posts talking about how “our people” are the reason for others suffering while showing videos of protests in Iran. It does confuse me as to why people are blaming us Muslims and not the people who are actually enforcing these rules

I'd like to address the fact that hijabs are banned in seventeen countries which are Tunisia, Austria, Denmark, France, Belgium, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chad, the Republic of the Congo, Gabon, the Netherlands, China, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Switzerland but people seem to ignore that.



This shows that many people supporting Iran (not all) aren't just supporting the fact that people are fighting for their rights to wear anything but only supporting the fact that they are taking their hijabs off. Many Islamophobes have been taking advantage of that. For example, it has been a major thing on social media for non-Muslim people to verbally force and threaten Muslim woman to take off their hijabs in order to “support Iranians”.

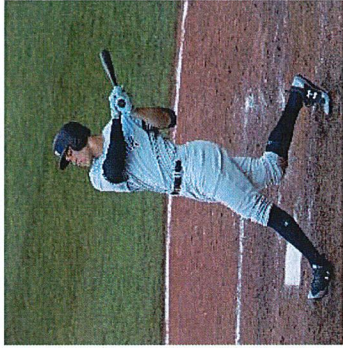


Obviously, we aren't listening to them since wearing the hijab is a matter of religion and not for fun.

(cont’d. on pg. 8, col. 2)

Aaron Judge-California or NY?

Page 7



Aaron Judge hit a record 62 homeruns in 2022

by Steven Desalvo II 7-409

Ever since the beginning of 2021, baseball fans have wondered if Aaron Judge will leave the New York Yankees. Now, as free agency looms on the horizon, rumors of Aaron Judge going to California have some truth.

However, it was not always like this. According to yardbraker.com, Aaron Judge stated that he “wants to be a Yankee for life,” a couple of weeks before the season started. Judge also told the Yankees that he did not want to negotiate a new contract during the season.

Before Opening Day, the New York Yankees offered Judge a seven-year, 213.5 million dollar deal. Surprisingly, Judge declined the deal, taking a huge gamble in order to get a better contract.

His gamble worked. Aaron Judge made history with the most homeruns (62) in American League history. His 1.000+ OPS also led the MLB along with many other significant stats. Judge will now get a massive paycheck in free agency, but who will sign him?

Judge, born in California, used to be a San Francisco Giants fan when he was a kid and may want to play for his favorite childhood team. Or, maybe he will want to join forces with Mookie Betts and Freddie Freeman of the Los Angeles Dodgers. Maybe the Mets will pick him up, due to their large budget. Worst of all, the most hated rival of the Yankees, the Boston Red Sox could bid for Judge.

So, if the Yankees want Judge back, they must be able to offer him a super deal, outbidding all the other teams. But the Yankees cannot just throw their money at the Judge. They already have commitments to players like Gerrit Cole who will make \$324 million for nine years. Giancarlo Stanton will make just shy of \$30 million per year. Josh Donaldson will make more than \$21 million in 2023. And that's just three of many players the Yankees will have to pay next season.

(cont’d. on pg. 8, col. 3)

WW III – A Possibility?

(cont'd. from pg. 7, col. 1)

Then the BBC said, “Chiang, the remnants of his Kuomintang (KMT) government and their supporters - about 1.5 million people fled to Taiwan in 1949.”



China wants to invade Taiwan for many reasons. According to the denisonforum.org “In 2021, Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech denouncing the ‘separatism’ of Taiwan and has previously said China would ‘smash’ any attempts of Taiwan to declare independence.” So, the leader of China, Xi Jinping, hates China and wants to invade as shown by this quote. However, President Biden has declared that the United States will defend Taiwan in the case of an invasion. Is getting into a fight with China that can escalate into a nuclear war worth Taiwan? China will most likely not invade Taiwan in the near future. However it can still happen.

Technically speaking, getting into a nuclear war that can end everyone is quite unwise, and every world leader in possession of nukes is aware of this fact. Hypothetically speaking, one person can click a button and it can result in a tragic loss of life. There will be no winners if this war goes through. But, is this worth the risk of ending the world? Is this worth all the strain on our money? Will America and Europe struggle to maintain warmth in the winter? Or is the war in Ukraine worth stopping Russian aggression? Yes, if this invasion is successful, who knows where Russia will go next? Poland or any other country that was a part of the Soviet Union, is at risk. If one falls, it might create a domino effect that will have a negative impact on the world.

You Are What You Eat

(cont'd. from pg. 4 col. 2)

Having unhealthy school lunches has affected the well-being of many students. Many parents have been concerned about their children’s health because eating so much unhealthy food and not being active and doing exercise could lead to obesity. Obesity is known to cause many heart issues and health issues overall.

On the other hand, having better school lunches would benefit not only the students but the schools as well. Studies have shown when students eat healthier they tend to behave better, and it reduces the chance of obesity.

Unfortunately, schools tend to serve unhealthy food because school lunch is not a top priority to the federal government when it comes to budget. As a student, school lunch has always been a big concern to me and many other students. Better school lunches would help benefit us all and help us be more alert and able to learn. If we are what we eat, we should be eating better lunches at

Iran’s Situation/Social Media

(cont'd. from pg. 7, col. 2)



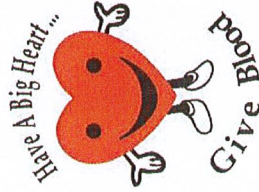
I'd be lying if I said I wasn't scared because you never know who is going to see a Muslim girl like me or others in the middle of the streets and decide to start a hate crime. Throughout my life, I've been getting made fun of enough in and outside of school asking me how I'm going to attack America like it was attacked on 9/11. I couldn't do anything about it because when I complained, they'd say that it was “just a joke”. Although I do see now that the school had enforced rules on this, I do hope that Muslim kids nowadays don't have to go through this anymore. I would also like to say that it doesn't say anywhere in the Quran (the Islamic book) that women are supposed to be forced to wear hijabs. Women who follow Islam should only wear their hijab for God and no other reason. It depends on your decision. It is your life. The decisions you make in this life are what decide your future. This sentence isn't just for Muslims but for people of other religions and colors. The only thing that is said/stated in the Quran is that women shouldn't wear anything that reveals too much skin or reveals the figure of her body.

In my opinion, it is important to spread awareness about what is going on in Iran and the effects it has on others from many countries. People are hurting on both sides whether it's from verbal abuse or physical abuse. Hopefully, after learning what's happening around us, others may have a better understanding of the pain and suffering on both sides.

PS 83 Blood Drive

(cont'd. from pg. 1, col. 1)

The school will also be participating in the Little Doctors Program. The Little Doctors Program is when an individual who works for the New York Blood Center does a presentation with young students and teaches them all about blood and blood drives. This is for children who don't meet the age requirements but still would like to demonstrate leadership and do the community a favor. At the end of the session, the students get a signup sheet and are asked to spread the word about the blood drive and ask friends and family to donate.



Even if you're not involved in the Little Doctors Program, you can still spread the word by showing this article to family and friends. Social media is also a helpful way to tell people about the urgency and need for blood. Remember every pint counts.

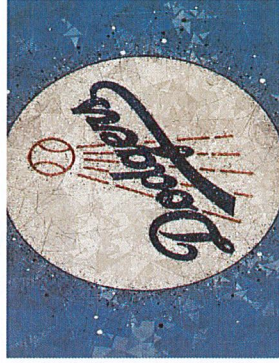
Aaron Judge-California or NY? (cont'd. from pg. 7, col. 3)

In conclusion, Aaron Judge's monster season will earn him a pay check, but which team will he sign with? Will he come back to New York? Will he sign with his favorite childhood team? Or will he go to a team that can offer him a massive deal like the Mets, the Dodgers or the Red Sox?

Whatever happens, Judge's time in New York will not amount to nothing as he has been the leader and face of Yankees baseball for more than five years.



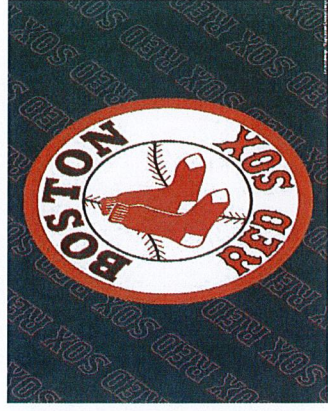
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